

## If You are the Parent of a School Aged Student...Take the Pledge!

- I WILL NOT serve, or allow anyone under the age of 21 years old to consume, alcohol or permit the use of illicit drugs by anyone in my home or on my property.
- I WILL be a good role model. My habits and attitudes may strongly influence my child's ideas about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.
- I WILL know who my child's friends are. And, when possible, I will know their parents. Next to me, friends are the biggest influence on my child at this age.
- I WILL make family rules. It is helpful for my child to know the specific rules about not using alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. It is also helpful for my child to know what the consequences will be for using these substances.
- I WILL call other parents for information when my child is invited to a party, and I will welcome calls from other parents concerned about their child.
- I WISH to be informed by other parents of drug or alcohol use, or any other risk-taking behavior in which they are aware my child may be involved. Also, I will inform other SAFE HOMES parents of any drug or alcohol use, or any other risk-taking behavior, of which I am aware their child may be involved.
- I WILL NOT allow unsupervised parties or gatherings in my home.



**Council on  
Chemical Abuse**  
Concilio de Abuso de Sustancias Químicas

601 Penn St., Ste. 600  
Reading, PA 19601  
610-376-8669  
[councilonchemicalabuse.org](http://councilonchemicalabuse.org)

### MISSION:

The mission of the Council on Chemical Abuse is to provide leadership in the development and implementation of policies, programs and a system of prevention and intervention services that prevent the onset of illegal alcohol, tobacco, and drug use, and treatment services that promote recovery from addiction to all substances.

*Parents of School Aged Children...Take the Safe Homes Pledge!*

# Safe Homes Network

A Pledge for Parents



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Visit the Safe  
Homes page at:  
[councilon  
chemicalabuse.  
org](http://councilonchemicalabuse.org)

# Safe Homes Parent Network Pledge Program



**...Parents and the community working together to create a safe, healthy environment for all youth...**

## History

The Safe Homes Parent Network Pledge was started by a group of parents in Livingston, New Jersey in 1982. LEADA, (Livingstonites for Education About Drug Abuse), developed the program to make parents aware of alcohol and other drug use by youth in the community. The Safe Homes program was designed to create a network of like-minded parents and to provide safe and healthy places for their children.

By signing the Safe Homes pledge, parents were asked to take responsibility for providing an alcohol and drug free environment for youth in their home. To support the mission of the program, parents were also encouraged to stay informed about alcohol and other drug related issues. Pledging parents were

urged to use their participation in the program as a way to communicate with their children regarding these issues and to help them set appropriate guidelines to prevent alcohol/drug use by their children.

## Safe Homes Parent Network Pledge

Safe Homes is a program designed by parents, for parents. Safe Homes is not a contract, but rather a statement of concern and intent. Safe Homes and its members are not able to guarantee or enforce compliance. Safe Homes exists to help parents connect and take a unified stance against drug and alcohol use, so they can be more effective than if acting separately.

In repeated studies survey-

ing students in Berks County, the importance of family emerges as a factor that strongly influences students' attitudes regarding alcohol and other drugs. In fact, "parental communication" is a major reason why children may choose not to drink or use illegal drugs.

Talking to your child is just the beginning of an effective prevention effort. Parents often benefit from an awareness of the support that surrounds them within their own communities. The Council on Chemical Abuse would like to assist parents with every prevention tool possible.

Safe Homes parents enjoy the mutual support of other like-minded parents by following the Safe Homes pledge. A directory is compiled from returned pledges from your community and sent to

participating parents. You may contact anyone listed within the directory about upcoming parties or events that your child might be attending. You may also want to organize your own drug-free activities.

You may have the opportunity to sign the pledge through your child's school. If you have any further questions, contact the Guidance Counselor or a PTO representative at your child's school.

## Prevention Programs

If you would like information on the many Council on Chemical Abuse prevention programs available in Berks County, you may request information at 610-376-8669 or via e-mail at [drugfree@councilonchemicalabuse.org](mailto:drugfree@councilonchemicalabuse.org).



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